

# HOUSE . . . . . No. 341

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## The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

**Byron Rushing**

*To the Honorable Senate and House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts in General Court assembled:*

The undersigned legislators and/or citizens respectfully petition for the passage of the accompanying bill:

An Act Providing for the Creation of a Special Commission Relative to the Impact on the Commonwealth of Massachusetts of the International Trade and Investment Agreements.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:
James B. Eldridge	Middlesex and Worcester
Steven J. D'Amico	4th Bristol
Denise Provost	27th Middlesex
Benjamin Swan	11th Hampden
Kay Khan	11th Middlesex
Robert L. Hedlund	Plymouth and Norfolk
Gloria L. Fox	7th Suffolk

# The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the Year Two Thousand and Nine

## AN ACT PROVIDING FOR THE CREATION OF A SPECIAL COMMISSION RELATIVE TO THE IMPACT ON THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS OF THE INTERNATIONAL TRADE AND INVESTMENT AGREEMENTS.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:*

Chapter 3 of the General Laws is hereby amended by adding the following section:--

Section 69. A permanent special commission is hereby established for the purpose of evaluating the continuing impacts on state laws and regulations by international trade policy and international trade agreements, examining proposed international trade agreements, maintaining active communications with any individual or entity, as the commission determines appropriate, regarding ongoing developments in international trade agreements and policy; and examining any aspects of international trade, international economic integration and international trade agreements that the members of the commission consider appropriate. An "international trade agreement" is defined as any international trade or investment agreement or treaty, including but not limited to, the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA), the Central American Free Trade Agreement (CAFTA), and agreements concluded by the World Trade Organization (WTO).

Said Commission shall engage in at least one public hearing annually and shall report on the economic and sovereignty impacts of international trade agreements on the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. Such report may include recommendations of support or opposition of revisions in United States trade policy or commitments, including but not limited to proposed international trade agreements. This annual report shall be transmitted to the General Court, the Governor, the Attorney General of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts; to federal officials, including the United States Trade Representative and members of the Massachusetts Congressional delegation.

19        Said commission shall consist of 3 members of the Senate of the General Court, 3 members of the  
20        House of Representatives of the General Court, the Governor or his designee, the Attorney General or her  
21        designee, the Treasurer or his designee, a representative from the Office of International Trade &  
22        Investment, and 9 persons appointed by the Governor, one of whom shall be a representative of organized  
23        labor, one of whom shall represent small business, one of whom shall be a representative from a human  
24        rights organization, one of whom shall represent farmers, one of whom shall be a representative from an  
25        environmental group, one of whom shall be a representative of the Massachusetts Municipal Association,  
26        one of whom shall be engaged in the business of exporting goods internationally, one of whom shall be a  
27        member of a graduate faculty of law, with expertise in issues of constitutional federalism, of a private  
28        university in the commonwealth, and one of whom shall be a member of a graduate faculty of economics  
29        or labor studies of the University of Massachusetts.